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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/661,612

09/15/2003

Patrick J. Coyne

0005-0005

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39878

7590

12/12/2006

MIN, HSIEH & HACK LLP

1951 KIDWELL DRIVE

SUITE 550

TYSONS CORNER, VA 22182

EXAMINER

PARDO, THUY N

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2165

DATE MAILED: 12/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/661,612

Applicant(s)

COYNE ET AL.

Examiner

Thuy N. Pardo

Art Unit

2165

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 September 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-55 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-55 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 September 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's Amendment filed on September 29, 2006 in response to Examiner's Office Action has been reviewed. Claims 1, 12, 23, 34, 45 and 49 have been amended. Claims 1-55 are pending in the application. This Office Action is made Final.

2. Applicant's Affidavit or Declaration Under 37 CFR 1.131 filed on September 29, 2006 to submit a declaration to establish invention of the subject matter of the rejected claim prior to the effective date of the reference on which the rejection is based. However, Applicant fails to showing of facts shall be such, in character and weight, as to establish reduction to practice prior to the effective date of the reference, or conception of the invention prior to the effective date of the reference coupled with due diligence from prior to said date to a subsequent reduction to practice or to the filing of the application. Original exhibits of drawings or records, or photocopies thereof, must accompany and form part of the affidavit or declaration from prior January 01, 2001 to December 10, 2001 (filing date of Provisional Application 60/337,158). Therefore, Applicant's declaration under 37 CFR 1.131 is not appropriate to overcome the rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

1. Claims 1-6, 12-17, 23-28, 34-39 and 45-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Macromedia Inc., "Connecting to Oracle Databases" published in 2001.

As to claim 23, Macromedia teaches the invention substantially as claimed, comprising:
the steps of:

- a. maintaining data in a first software application in a first, ODBC-compliant format [ODBC drivers, page1];
- b. maintaining data in a second software application in a second format other than an ODBC-compliant format [Native drivers, page 1];
- c. communicating the data from said first software application to a professional services project management application through a SQL server means [connecting the Oracle server from Solaris with SQL, page 2];
- d. communicating the data from said second software application to said professional services project management application through said SQL server means cooperating with a Cold Fusion web server means [run Cold fusion servers, pages 2-3]; and
- e. providing the data to the user through said professional services project management application [pages 3-4].

As to claims 1, Macromedia teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Macromedia further teaches said professional service practice management application further comprising an interface for communicating the data to the user [page 5].

As to claims 12, 34 and 45, all limitations of these claims have been addressed in the analysis above, and these claims are rejected on that basis.

As to claim 2, Macromedia teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Macromedia further teaches that said professional services project management application comprises a shareware application [pages 1-2].

As to claim 3, Macromedia teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Macromedia further teaches that said professional services project management application comprises a Lotus Notes database [inherent in the Oracle Database, pages 1-5].

As to claim 4, Macromedia teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Macromedia further teaches an ODBC link tool means for communicating with said first software application [pages 1-6].

As to claim 5, Macromedia teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Macromedia further teaches and ODBC link tool means for communicating with said Notes database [pages 1-6].

Art Unit: 2165

As to claim 6, Macromedia teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Macromedia further teaches that said ODBC link tool comprises a Notes Distributed Enterprise Connectivity System [pages 1-6].

As to claims 13-15, 24-28, 35-39 and 46-50, all limitations of these claims have been addressed in the analysis above, and these claims are rejected on that basis.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 7-11, 18-22, 29-33, 40-44 and 51-55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Macromedia Inc., "Connecting to Oracle Databases" published in 2001.

As to claim 7, Macromedia teaches the invention substantially as claimed, with the that said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow, conflicts, expense, budgeting, risk management, project management, database, imaging, and reporting data. However, this is only a matter of a design choice. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention to

Art Unit: 2165

add this feature to the Macromedia's system as an essential means to increase the adaptability of computer networks system.

As to claims 8-11, Macromedia teaches the invention substantially as claimed, with the exception that said second software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data, accounting data, or a TMC accounting system. However, this is only a matter of a design choice. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention to add this feature to the Macromedia's system as an essential means to increase the adaptability of computer networks into the accounting system.

As to claims 18-22, 29-33, 40-44 and 51-55, all limitations of these claims have been addressed in the analysis above, and these claims are rejected on that basis.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant argues that Macromedia is utilizing both the ColdFusion application and the SQL plus to connect to only one type of "software application" for the native drivers instead of using SQL and ColdFusion as separate but interactive components for gathering data from distinct first and second software applications, respectively.

Examiner respectfully disagrees. Applicant's invention is directed to aggregate data from two or more software applications in which the data is maintained in incompatible formats to make the data available to the user through a single interface [see Applicant's Specification, 0023].

Art Unit: 2165

Examiner believes that Macromedia covers these features. Macromedia teaches two software applications with different formats: an application for Windows format and an application for UNIX format [see Macromedia, page 1 of 7]. The ODBC driver acts as the common interface enabling interoperability between the applications as a single application available to user [see Macromedia, pages 1-2 of 7].

Applicant argues that there is no motivation in Macromedia since the publication fails to encompass the essence of the claimed invention.

Examiner respectfully disagrees. Since Examiner points out that Macromedia teaches the essence of Applicant's claimed invention, the motivation to apply this invention to different business applications, such as to an accounting system, a project management, or a reporting data system,...etc, is obvious.

Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

Art Unit: 2165

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy Pardo whose telephone number is 571-272-4082. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached on 571-272-4146. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

December 08, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.